

Middle East. We cannot abandon our strong ally in Israel by our indifference or inaction, especially when they need us most.

### PROTECTING ISRAEL IS DUTY OF UNITED STATES

(Mr. CAWTHORN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CAWTHORN. Madam Speaker, the deadly conflict plaguing Israel becomes worse and worse each day.

Since Monday, the vile and despicable terrorist organization Hamas has launched over 1,000 rockets from Gaza into Israeli population centers.

The fact that Members of this body are speaking out in support of these terrorists leaves me sickened. The differences between these two sides are shocking. There is no debate that if Israel were to lay down their arms entirely, there would be a genocide. But if Hamas were to lay down their arms, there would be nothing but peace.

The fact that Representatives here in this Chamber would side with violent extremists is mind-boggling. I encourage these Members to go to Gaza, see how they murder members of the LGBTQ community, see how they marginalize and abuse women, how they treat those of different faiths.

Let me be clear: There is no moral equivalency between these two sides. It is our duty to protect Israel, and if anyone is to ever invade Israel, I promise you that there is no crevice on Earth that will conceal you from the wrath of God.

I would also be remiss to not recognize that some Members of this body in the majority party have spoken out against Hamas, and for that, I thank you.

### HONORING POLICE OFFICERS

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, it is good to be an American because as I stand here today during National Police Week, I can truly say that across America, we honor the police officer who holds a child's hand. We honor the police officer who comes to an emergency situation.

I honor the police officers who, throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, were on the front lines without testing or vaccination, helping many others. I know, Madam Speaker, because they helped me. They helped me with my testing sites. Now, they help me with my vaccination sites.

I want to remind them they will be helping me tomorrow, and that is Saturday the 15th, when we are at Key Middle School and Heights High School, vaccinating children 12 to 15 years old with the Pfizer vaccination, from 2 to 5 at Key Middle School and 10 to 1 at Heights High School.

We mourn those who have lost their lives in the line of duty. That is because we are Americans, and we stand united in that effort. There can be no divide. We know who we believe in and what we believe in. We thank them so very much, and we also believe in the liberties of all people.

### ISSUES OF THE DAY

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Mr. GOHMERT. Madam Speaker, it has been interesting. I get to take my mask off under the rules now.

We haven't quite caught up with the science here in the House. The House of Representatives that has leadership proclaiming that we need to follow the science refuses to do so, so far. But we are hoping we will eventually get at least the majority of people here to follow the science.

It has been an interesting time, not a good time, not a wonderful, enriching time to be in the House of Representatives. It has been an exceedingly frustrating time.

After January 6, apparently, the number one goal here in the House was something referred to as optics. According to the Sergeant at Arms, the reason the National Guard was not brought up in advance on January 6, so there would be no one entering the Capitol that was not desired to enter the Capitol, was that word, "optics."

So, the Capitol Police, doing the best they could, were left to fend for themselves without the support they needed. It is a big place. But had the number one concern before January 6 by people here in Washington, at the Capitol, at least, if that number one concern had not been optics, there would have been no one coming into the Capitol that we didn't want to be in the Capitol.

Since then, we have been entertained by all kinds of false statements, false allegations. It has really been amazing. The number one thing we keep coming back to is, apparently, it is not about getting at the truth. It is all about optics.

The top person charged with the safety of Members of Congress, the head of the Capitol Police, months ago indicated that there was no intel from any source that any Member of Congress was at risk or a threat to any other Member of Congress. No Member of Congress was at risk from another Member of Congress.

Since then, as I understand it, there was an ethics charge leveled at MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE that she was encouraging a debate with another Member of Congress and somehow that is apparently an ethics violation.

I had a Democrat some years back come up and threaten to kick my buttocks. I think he used other language.

But had he swung, I might have filed a complaint.

Here on the House floor, what we have are words. We get into very heated debates at times because we care deeply about the things we care deeply about. But those are not assaults.

There have been assaults in the Capitol, and I know memory is apparently a big question these days, but when the President of the United States stands right up here at the second level, as Presidents have since this opened before 1860, and have made speeches—in this case, it wasn't to a joint session; it was to an invitation-only session—but he indicated that what happened on January 6 was the worst attack on democracy since the Civil War.

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So being an ongoing student of history since Coach Sam Parker instilled a love in me for history, especially American history—the good, the bad, the ugly, the incredible—I have continued to be a student of American history, and World history as well.

So sometimes it is helpful for those who don't know our history or can't remember our history to be reminded that since the Civil War put an end to slavery in America, even though it took an ordained Christian preacher resolutely, peacefully advocating for civil rights, and that the Constitution should be used as a document that means what it says.

And as the Declaration of Independence made clear, we are endowed not by government, but by our creator with certain unalienable rights.

And Dr. King's letters from the Birmingham jail, as he was unjustly incarcerated, pretty powerful words from a man full of vision. We miss his vision. I think things would be very different if he were still alive today. The assassin did great damage to the United States of America, and the benefits that we would have had from a visionary still if he were alive today.

Because there are some who say if you even use words to debate, that somehow you are an insurrectionist, you need to be jailed. And that has been happening since January 6. In fact, January 6 of 2017, I believe there were 11 different Democrats that stood up and forcefully objected to the results and to the electors that were voting for President Trump.

And there was not a single Republican I ever heard on our side of the aisle that accused them of trying to overthrow the government, insurrection—all these things that some of us have been accused of—simply wanting a fair election in which the votes of tens of millions of Americans were not disenfranchised. The very same thing even our current Speaker has said back in prior days about prior elections.

So imagine the shock for those of us who, for the last 20 years, had been preached to by people on the other side of the aisle about the unfairness of election, the vulnerability of electronic